



YULE FESTIVAL . . . Participating in the first annual Torrance High School Christmas Good Will Festival will be the special choral ensemble shown above consisting of (left to right) Pat Cecil, Joan Mumford, Grace Lafferty, Ann Miller, Anita Menni, and Joyce Wold, all THS students. The seventh member of the group, Pat Reid, is not present in the picture. Below are shown the piano accompanists for the program, (left to right) Claudine Pickett, Nancy Whyte, and Pat Clero. (Torrance Herald photos).

Goodwill Concert Is Slated

The Torrance High School Music and Drama department will present a Christmas concert on Thursday, Dec. 18 at 8 p. m., in high school auditorium.

CITY WILL GET BACK ITS EXPENSES ON AIRPORT BILLS SAYS SHERFEY; PLANS MADE

Any city funds expended in operation of Torrance Municipal airport since June are subject to adjustment when a final contract is drawn with E. Y. Tarkington providing for management and operation of the Army-developed airfield.

So stated Mayor I. Hugh Sherfeley Jr. in acknowledging the fact that the City had been paying airport expenses beyond its agreement providing that Tarkington receive 85 percent of the gross income and assume expenses, thus giving the City a net 15 percent.

Sherfeley said that Tarkington now is operating under a temporary contract, but that when the final draft is prepared such funds as the city has paid will be taken into consideration in accordance with the terms of the City Council's action allowing Tarkington 85 percent of the gross, he to pay the bills.

Mayor Sherfeley declared that the City had been awaiting the final outcome of the litigation brought by a group of Lomita business men seeking the right to operate the airport before making the final contract.

The combined choruses will present the Cantata "Music of Bethlehem" for the first part and "Merriest Christmas" for the second part.

There will be a vocal solo "O Holy Night" by Grace Lafferty and a solo with the chorus by Joan Mumford, Sue Russell and Audrey Knight.

The entire program emphasizes the participation of over 200 students and will be repeated again on Friday morning at 10:15.

Fox is one of the owners of the Torrance Community airport at Prairie ave. and Redondo Beach blvd., considered the model small airport of the southwest, with its paved runways, hangars, service and school facilities.

Weather Report table with columns for Temperature (Maximum, Minimum) and Precipitation (Storm Total, Season).

Building Permits For Year Reach \$6,690,858

Torrance building permits for the year reached \$6,690,858 during the past week as 26 permits valued at \$149,010 were issued through the city engineer's office.

Select Homes, Inc. of Los Angeles took out \$60,380 in permits for 10 homes valued at \$6,038 each. Nine are to be located in the 3900 and 4000 block on 242nd street with the tenth at 2412 20th avenue.

Other permits issued during the week included the following: William Park, Wool Com. residence at 17360 Gramercy place, \$8,000.

Robert W. Nuckles, 2115 Arlington avenue, residence at 2410 Apple avenue, \$8,600.

Wendell W. Jones, 2036 242nd street, residence at 2307 23rd street, \$3,400.

Strike Picture Clearing

The retail stores strike front in Torrance presented a varied picture this week.

Owl Drug Company, 8480 Beverly boulevard, took out a permit to erect a 30 by 140-foot brick store building at 1267 Sartori avenue adjacent to the former strike-bound Owl-Sontag store, now being operated by the Pay-Less firm.

The big neon signs on the former Whelan drug store location on Sartori avenue are being removed, and it is reported that this store soon will reopen.

With Torrance represented by Charles V. Jones on the three-

Special Yule Postal Service Is Announced

Torrance postoffice will be open daily starting tomorrow from 8 a. m. to 7 p. m. to handle the Christmas rush in parcel post and stamps.

The postoffice will be open on Saturdays Dec. 13 and 20 from 8 a. m. until 7 p. m. for parcel post and stamp sales only.

In the Keystone area, according to Conner, special Christmas mailing service will be provided daily from 1 p. m. to 6 p. m., at 2922 South Main street.

9 'Screwdriver' Thefts Admitted By 2 Teen-Agers

The recent wave of "screw driver burglaries" were cleared up this week when sheriff's officers apprehended two teenagers who have admitted committing nine burglaries during the past month in this area.

The boys, one 14 and the other 15, were picked up Saturday while riding a stolen motor scooter belonging to Tom N. Chapman, 2141 West 253rd place, Lomita.

In almost all cases, the method of operation was the same. One of the boys would break a rear screen in a home with a screwdriver to get at the safety catch. Practically all of the lost was recovered, some of which had been buried and part of it thrown away by the youths.

Other victims of the pair were Helen Wilson, 1811 Border avenue, who lost \$410 worth of jewelry on Nov. 11; Otto Batsch, 1888 Plaza del Amo, \$145 worth of liquor, cash, and jewelry.

It so happens, explains Charles V. Jones, owner of the Torrance Hardware Co., that the package delivered to the purchaser of the electric train did not contain the locomotive and the cars of the coveted electric train. They still are on display in the store.

On the chance that the purchaser of the train might not get notice of his mistake, the Herald is joining with Jones in asking all who know of anyone who might have made such a purchase if he is sure of the contents of any unopened package obtained from the Torrance Hardware.

To be sure, Santa Claus joins Proprietor Jones and the clerk in wanting to make it right.

OFFICES NOW VACATED ARE FLOODED WITH BUSINESS BY CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

The plight of Torrance City Council on department heads approached the ridiculous Tuesday night as the legislative body of the city continued to "refer" important matters to offices which are vacant.

One is that of City Attorney, vacated when City Judge Otto B. Willett took over the City Court bench formerly held by Justice of the Peace John A. Shidler.

The second is the office of City Engineer, vacant since Nov. 15 when Glenn M. Jain resigned to accept a similar post in Redwood City.

Under the City Charter, the offices of City Attorney and City Judge are separate and distinct. The Charter gives the City Attorney the additional duties of prosecutor of "such cases in the City Court which, in his opinion or in the opinion of the Chief of Police, require his attention."

For the Judge to act in the capacity of City Attorney and prosecutor not only would jeopardize his position on the City Court bench but might make the Council members liable under lawsuits resulting from decisions the City Judge might render, particularly in criminal cases, it was said.

Judge Willett has told the City Council that he cannot function both as City Attorney and City Judge, but the Council persisted Tuesday night in referring case after case to the "City Attorney" in the belief that Willett legally can handle the matters.

It is reported that the Council is reluctant to appoint any of the qualified attorneys in Torrance, eligible for temporary or possible permanent appointment, and are attempting to avoid the Civil Service ordinances which provide that the appointee must have a year's residence in the city before application for examination for the job.

Of four attorneys reported eligible for the appointment, C. E. Hiberty, who formerly held the job, told the Torrance Herald that he will not

Chest Drive In Lag; 67 Percent Of Quota Reached

Continuation of the Community Chest campaign was asked of all towns and cities still short of their quotas last week by Edward R. Valentine, general campaign chairman, who announced that a special leadership report meeting has been scheduled for next Wednesday Dec. 17 in the Biltmore Hotel.

Valentine said that the loyal work of thousands of volunteers has been instrumental in bringing the campaign to its present stage, but warned that "we cannot stop short of the minimum goal of \$7,322,240 without serious setbacks in our Red Feather welfare program."

Chairman Sam Levy, of Torrance, announced that contributions in this city now amount to \$9,709, 67 percent of the goal here of \$14,825. He asked for a final "all-out" effort on the part of volunteers who have not as yet completed their campaign assignments, in order to finish "this community job."

Standings for other towns and cities in Area "B" are as follows: Los Angeles Airport, 139 percent of goal; Gardena 103%; Lawndale 100%; Lennox 89%; Inglewood 79%; Hawthorne 49% and Palos Verdes 40%.

INVASION OF HOME WITH NO WARRANT APPROVED

The City Council Tuesday night observed "Bill of Rights Week" by adopting an ordinance to deny citizens one of their long cherished "rights"—that of the protection against seizures of a man in his home without a warrant signed by a judge.

Asked by Chief of Police John Stroth who claims that similar ordinances are in effect in other cities, the new Torrance ordinance, adopted for its first reading, says "the law will permit the police to enter a home and take into custody any person intoxicated "to the annoyance of any other person," upon the request of the person "annoyed" and without a formal complaint.

The police officer, it is said, would be the judge of whether or not the person is "intoxicated" — and it was explained that the accused person could be held the same as any person picked up on the street.

MACHINERY INSTALLATION AT \$4,500,000 AMERICAN-STANDARD PLANT IS STARTED

Installation of machinery in the \$4,500,000 plant of American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corporation has been undertaken, it was announced this week by company officials.

A milling machine and screening machine have been installed, and other equipment is coming in regularly for the gigantic pottery plant which will serve the entire Southwest and Pacific points with products of the corporation.

It was revealed this week that while the building permit on the actual construction of the plant, located at Crenshaw boulevard and 204th street, was for only \$1,500,000, the total investment in the Torrance pottery of American-Standard will be approximately \$4,500,000.

The concrete slabs for the floor of the big factory are about completed, and steel for roof reinforcing and overhead cranes at the system of 20 silos to be used to store materials, is being installed.

Concrete for walls is being poured as fast as the forms are constructed.

It was announced recently that the actual construction on the plant is due for completion early next year, while machinery installation and finishing touches may require until June, when the plant formally will be placed in operation.

'SHELVES FULL, BUT SHOP EARLY,' SAY MERCHANTS

"Do your Christmas shopping early." The time-worn warning comes again this year from Torrance merchants, whose shelves are well stocked with Christmas gifts for everyone from Little Sis to Gramps.

An aburn-haired saleslady at Benson's said, "It's the same every year. People forget how much easier it is to shop before the last few days of the Christmas rush, and how much better a selection they'll have if they'll just . . . shop early!"

Forgetful or not, Torrance residents will be pleased this year when they discover that local stores have everything in Christmas wares that can be found in larger cities, and quite a few rare items that can't be found in metropolitan centers throughout the country.

Sam Levy was especially proud of a stock of all-wool men's underwear, the kind that older men cherish, and advised the younger generation that grandpa would appreciate a set of the warm drawers more than they'd guess! Levy's windows are decorated in the holiday spirit with white Christmas trees and silver-leaved poinsettia arrangements.

Torrance P.T.A. Council Forms, Elects Officers

Torrance P.T.A. Council, First District, California Congress of Parents and Teachers, uniting the five groups of this area, was organized formally Tuesday at a joint meeting in Torrance High School auditorium when by-laws were approved, officers elected and installed.

Mrs. W. E. Bowen of Torrance High School P.T.A. was elected as the first Council president on an unanimous ballot. Other officers are as follows: Mrs. W. C. Graham, Perry School, first vice-president; Mrs. Evar Jansson, Walteria School, second vice-president; Mrs. Geo. Baer, Torrance High School, re-

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Perry Trustees To Be Honored

Gordon Mann, who served for years as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the former Perry School district, now a part of Torrance City School district and John M. Clotworthy, clerk of the Board, will be presented certificates of service by the County Board of Education soon.

According to word received by J. Henrich Hull, superintendent of Torrance City School district, the award will be made at the Perry Parent-Teacher Association meeting to be held on Dec. 16 at 8 p. m. in the Perry school.

PLEASE, DAD, CHECK THAT ELECTRIC TRAIN PACKAGE

Somewhere in Torrance, Lomita or other nearby areas, there is a little lad, under the age of six, who is going to awaken Christmas morning and find an "empty stocking" as far as his much-wanted electric train is concerned, unless the Dad who thought he had taken delivery of the desired equipment on behalf of Santa Claus discovers his mistake on his own initiative or reads this item.

The story is like this: A father, wanting a particular train for his little son, walked into the Torrance Hardware Co. at 1515 Cabrillo ave. Monday, Dec. 8, and paid \$15.70 for the American Flier electric train.

Faithfully, the hardware company clerk went to the stock, carefully wrapped the package with all the trimmings that good Old Saint Nick would give it, and handed it to the father. "I'm not going to let the package be touched until Christmas morning," said the father to the clerk.

"But, oh please," now implores the clerk, open that package, come back and get the train, for you have only the track and signal equipment in that package."

It so happens, explains Charles V. Jones, owner of the Torrance Hardware Co., that the package delivered to the purchaser of the electric train did not contain the locomotive and the cars of the coveted electric train. They still are on display in the store.

Jones asked the Torrance Herald to assist him in locating the purchaser of the train that the delivery may be completed before Santa Claus makes his call on that little lad on Christmas eve.